

Message Text

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SUBJ: CTV CONGRESS - CUBAN PARTICIPATION

REF: CARACAS 1302

1. CONFEDERATION OF VENEZUELAN WORKERS (CTV) INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY JOSE VARGAS AND ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL AUGUSTO MALAVE WILLALBA CONFIRM THAT THE CUBAN LABOR CENTRAL (CTC) WILL BE INVITED TO THE VII CTV CONGRESS (APRIL 25 - MAY 1). THE AFL-CIO, THE CANADIAN LABOR CENTRAL (CLC), THE MEXICAN LABOR CENTRAL (CTM), THE TWO COLOMBIAN LABOR CENTRALS (UTC AND CTC), A VARIETY OF OTHER NATIONAL MOVEMENTS, ORIT, ICFTU, CLAT, AND WCL HAVE ALSO BEEN INVITED.

2. VARGAS AND MALAVE (BOTH MEMBERS OF ACCION DEMOCRATICA - AD) CONTINUE TO STRESS THAT THEY WERE FORCED TO INVITE THE CUBANS TO SAVE FACE FOR ACTING CTV PRESIDENT RAFAEL LEON LEON (A MEMBER OF THE OPPOSITION SOCIAL CHRISTIAN PARTY - COPEI), WHO HAD ORALLY INVITED THE CUBANS (FEFTEL). THEY FURTHER STRESS THAT THE PRESENCE OF BOTH THE CUBANS AND THE AFL-CIO WOULD GIVE THE CTV A CHANCE PUBLICLY TO DEMONSTRATE THE CTV'S CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE AMERICANS AND ITS COOL RELATIONS WITH THE CUBANS. VARGAS ADDED THAT THE AFL-CIO HAS PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED CTV CONGRESSES

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WHEN BOTH RUSSIAN AND YUGOSLAV TRADE UNIONISTS WERE PRESENT,

CITING SPECIFICALLY THE III CONGRESS IN 1959 WHEN THE CTV
AFFILIATED WITH THE ICFTU AND ORIT. NEITHER THE RUSSIANS NOR
THE YUGOSLAVS ARE INVITED TO THE VII CONGRESS.

3. VARGAS STATED THAT THE CUBAN INVITATION SHOULD HAVE NO
IMPACT ON BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CTV AND THE AFL-CIO,
NOR WOULD IT HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE MEETING BETWEEN THE CTV,
CTM, CLC, AFL-CIO AND THE COLOMBIANS TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF
ORIT. THIS MEETING WAS AGREED ON DURING THE RECENT ICFTU
VISIT (CARACAS 3226).

4. COMMENT: WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE THE FACT REMAINS THAT
THE CUBANS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO SEND OBSERVERS TO THE UPCOMING
CTV CONGRESS.
ASENCIO

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